

FAO Rob Smith
North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
York
YO62 5BP

NYMNP

03/09/2018

Date: 3 September 2018
Our ref: 50303/04/HS/JCx/16434180v1
Your ref: NYM/2017/0505/MEIA

Dear Rob

North York Moors: Woodsmith Mine: Application for a Non Material Amendment to Planning Permission NYM/2017/0505/MEIA

On behalf of our client, Sirius Minerals, and in accordance with procedural advice from the Authority, Lichfields is pleased to submit this application for a non material amendment (NMA) to planning permission NYM/2017/0505/MEIA.

Application Submission

This NMA application was submitted online via the planning portal on 3 September 2018 (ref. PP-07254094). This application comprises the following documents and plans:

- This covering letter;
- Completed application form;
- Woodsmith Mine Telecommunications Mast Elevation (drawing ref. 40-GHD-WS-5720-TE-15-00001)

Background

On 19 October 2015, the NYMNP granted planning permission for the “Winning and working of polyhalite by underground methods including the construction of a minehead at Dove's Nest Farm involving access, maintenance and ventilation shafts, the landforming of associated spoil, the construction of buildings, access roads, car parking and helicopter landing site, attenuation ponds, landscaping, restoration and aftercare and associated works. In addition, the construction of an underground tunnel between Doves Nest Farm and land at Wilton that links to the mine below ground, comprising 1 no. shaft at Doves Nest Farm, 3 no. intermediate access shaft sites, each with associated landforming of associated spoil, the construction of buildings, access roads and car parking, landscaping, restoration and aftercare, and the construction of a tunnel portal at Wilton comprising buildings, landforming of spoil and associated works” (Council Reference NYM/2014/0676/MEIA).

On 6 February 2017, the NYMNP granted planning permission for the “Variation of Condition 5 of planning permission NYM/2014/0676/MEIA to allow minor material amendments relating to that part of the development at the Woodsmith Mine site (formerly known as Doves Nest Farm and Haxby Plantation),

including; re-design of foreshafts and shaft construction methodology, changes to building layout and shaft access arrangements, revisions to construction and operational shaft platform levels, revisions to location and layout of surface water attenuation ponds, revisions to groundwater management arrangements and amendments to internal access arrangements” (Council Reference NYM/2017/0505/MEIA).

Proposal

The proposed works comprise the installation of a telecommunications mast to the Northern Power Grid (“NPG”) substation that was approved at the Woodsmith Mine site under application ref. NYM/2018/0181/NM.

The telecommunications mast – which will be operated by Northern Power Grid – will allow power to be exported from the mine site, where there is a drop in demand. In such circumstances, it will allow NPG to remotely direct electrical power to other locations and, in doing so, help avoid tripping the mine site’s connection grid.

As shown on the enclosed plan, the mast is to be located to the north east of the NPG kiosk, on the western side of the mine site’s perimeter fence. This has been identified as the optimum location for the mast, given that it can provide a clear line of sight to the NPG Repeater Mast in Whitby, whilst keeping its height to a minimum and avoiding the need to clear any trees.

The mast itself is to be a 15 metre high matrix, self-supporting climbable mast, with an aluminium aerial at the top. At its base, the mast will be earthed at 3 corners and will connect to the nearby NPG kiosk via underground ducts. Whilst the entirety of the mast will be finished in a RAL 6008 colour, the aerial will need to retain a clean aluminium finish so as to avoid radio waves being obstructed.

The mast is anticipated to be installed in one piece via a single HGV trip. Whilst the mast should be maintenance free once installed and operational, a 2ft wide gravel path along the fence line will provide any requisite maintenance access.

The NMA will not impact on Sirius Minerals’ ability to meet the requirements of its associated planning conditions, with the details enclosed with this submission also fulfilling the requirements of Condition 74 (details in relation to Permanent Above Ground Structures).

We trust that this NMA application meets the requirements of the Authority and look forward to receiving your notice of approval. If you require any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely



James Cox
Senior Planner

Copy – Sirius Minerals